

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

2001HANOI03308 - UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED PTQ3916

PAGE 01 HANOI 03308 210910Z
ACTION EAP-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CA-01
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00
	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	IO-00	JUSE-00
	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	MOFM-05	MOF-00	M-00	AC-01
	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-00
	PC-01	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00
	ASDS-01	R-00	IIP-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	G-00
	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/019W				

-----4ED66F 210910Z /38

FM AMEMBASSY HANOI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5069
INFO AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH CITY
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS HANOI 003308

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/BCLTV AND EAP/PD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [KPAO](#) [OIIP](#) [VM](#) [CWG](#) [PD](#) [CTERR](#)

SUBJECT: DISCUSSING TERRORISM IN NORTHEASTERN VIETNAM

REF: A. HANOI 3282 B. HANOI 3201 C. HANOI 2885

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 HANOI 03308 210910Z

1. DURING OFFICIAL TRAVEL IN TWO NORTHEASTERN PROVINCES -- HAI DUONG AND QUANG NINH -- DECEMBER 18-19 (SEPTTEL), POL/C DISTRIBUTED PAS-PRODUCED "RESPONSE TO TERROR" AND "NETWORK OF TERROR" (AS WELL AS OTHER PAS MATERIALS ABOUT THE U.S.), EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR GVN COOPERATION AGAINST TERRORISM, AND HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF FURTHER STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN THE ONGOING CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM. VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE HAI DUONG PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE BUI VAN XUYEN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE MATERIALS AND REITERATED VIETNAM'S OPPOSITION TO TERRORISM AND SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO COMBAT IT. HE STRESSED THAT "EVERYONE IN THE WORLD" MUST COOPERATE AGAINST TERRORISM AND THAT, IF "TERRORIST GROUPS CONTINUE TO OPERATE, THERE WILL NEVER BE PEACE." AT THE SAME TIME, HE NOTED THE CONCERN OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE OVER POTENTIAL COLLATERAL DAMAGE OR INJURY TO INNOCENT CIVILIANS.

2. VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE QUANG NINH PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE NGUYEN VAN MIEN CONDEMNED INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IN STRONG TERMS, WHILE CALLING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO RESPECT NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR USING THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM TO ACHIEVE OTHER GOALS NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO COUNTER-TERRORISM, CITING THE SUFFERING OF VIETNAMESE CIVILIANS IN WARTIME. POL/C EMPHASIZED THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO MINIMIZE SUCH DAMAGE OR INJURIES, AS WELL AS THE ONGOING EFFORTS TO PROVIDED MUCH-NEEDED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

3. BUI HUU THIEM, VICE CHAIRMAN OF MONG CAI TOWN ALONG THE CHINESE BORDER, VIGOROUSLY EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 HANOI 03308 210910Z

EFFORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO COMBAT TERRORISM. HE CLAIMED THAT MONG CAI RESIDENTS WERE SHARPLY AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AS A RESULT OF EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE AND CLAIMED THAT THEY "HATE BIN LADEN" AND THE OTHERS IN HIS ORGANIZATION. HE NOTED THAT VIETNAM PROVIDED NO SAFEHAVEN FOR TERRORISM AND PLEDGED THAT "EVERYONE IS SAFE" HERE IN VIETNAM FROM THIS THREAT.

4. COMMENT: OFFICIAL INTERLOCUTORS IN THESE PROVINCES APPEARED SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE EXTENT OF VIETNAM'S COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM BUT CLEAR IN GENERAL TERMS ABOUT THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. THE CONCERN FOR CIVILIANS IS A RECURRENT REFRAIN IN OFFICIAL GVN STATEMENTS AND REFLECTS VIETNAM'S OWN SPECIAL HISTORY WITH BOMBING CAMPAIGNS. WHILE EMBASSY HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTED WITH THE SOMETIMES UNBALANCED COVERAGE BY THE VIETNAMESE MEDIA OF THE MILITARY CAMPAIGN AGAINST AL-QAEDA AND THE TALIBAN, IT APPEARS THAT, EVEN IN THE PROVINCES, VIETNAMESE ARE GETTING THE MESSAGE THAT THIS

CAMPAIGN IS JUST AND NECESSARY AND THAT THEY WELCOME
COOPERATION TOWARD THIS EFFORT. PAS-PRODUCED MATERIALS WILL
BE VALUABLE IN DEEPENING THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CURRENT
SITUATION AND US-LED EFFORTS.
BURGHARDT

UNCLASSIFIED